GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH
ABSTRACT

Agriculture & Cooperation Dept – Farm Mechanisation Scheme – Supply of Tractors to the farmers under subsidy programme – Orders – Issued.
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AGRICULTURE & COOPERATION (AGRI. I) DEPARTMENT

G.O.MS.No. 50 Dated: 08-06-2017
O R D E R:-

The Government of Andhra Pradesh is a pro-farmer Government given that Agriculture continues to be the predominant source of livelihood for almost 62% of the population. The State of Andhra Pradesh is amongst the top 10 farmer friendly states in the country, according to NITI Aayog's Index on reforms in the farm sector. The Government accords highest priority to the Primary Sector which achieved 14.6% Growth rate in 2016-17 inspite of (-) 28% rain fall. Government is focussing on improving the livelihood of small and marginal farmers by leveraging IOT and through introduction of Customised and need based Farm Mechanisation Policy. As the first step towards making farming community Debt free, the Government have introduced a very transparent and accurate field data-driven Debt Redemption Scheme to the tune of Rs.24,500 crores. Andhra Pradesh is the first state in the Country, which announced such farmer friendly package and it is now the role model for other states.

2. The Primary Sector Mission was also launched by Government to address the farm related issues like enhancing value addition from Agriculture, Horticulture, Livestock and Fisheries and shortages in storage space including cold storages. The State is committed to transforming the Primary Sector with an aspirational goal of making Andhra Pradesh as one of the three top leading states in India by 2029.

3. The productivity of farms depends greatly on the availability and judicious use of farm power by the farmers. Agricultural implements and machines enable the farmers to employ the power judiciously for production purposes. Agricultural machines increase productivity of land and labour by meeting timeliness of farm operations and increase work out-put per unit time. Besides its paramount contribution to the multiple cropping and diversification of agriculture, mechanization also enables efficient utilisation of inputs such as seeds, fertilisers and irrigation, also increases the yield by 15% through better placement and more effective utilisation of fertilisers and seeds.

4. To promote Farm Mechanization further in the State, to improve financial capacity of the individual farmer, to propagate custom hiring of latest agricultural machinery at affordable prices for the small and marginal

farmers and to increase the yield of the crops for overall improvement of productivity in the agriculture sector, tractor availability with the farming community is the need of the hour.

5. Tractor use on the farm, when properly applied, can improve overall efficiency, maximize both land and labour productivity and lead to increased economic returns for the farmer. Moreover, it reduces drudgery, improves the farmer's social status and allows him more time to pursue other productive activities. However, the mechanization of small farms, despite its potential advantages, is not being fully adopted. There are still many farmers in some areas of the Andhra Pradesh who do not use tractors. Among other reasons, lower operating costs which encouraged tractor use in the past have been affected by rising fuel and oil prices, which, in turn, have led to higher custom rates, making some farmers hesitant to fully adopt tractors. These farmers retain draft animals and continue to use them for all or part of their land preparation operation instead of fully mechanizing. Many factors hinder tractor adoption among small and marginal farmers. Among these is the lack of cash to purchase or hire tractor services. In addition, small parcels and the prevalence of small farms also make tractor use uneconomical since both two- and four-wheel drive tractors are indivisible capital-intensive investments. In order to overcome these constraints, the State Government is supplying tractors in subsidy scheme for the year 2017-18.

6. When tractors available in the farming sector, it will further enhance the usage of latest tractor drawn implements like Rotavators, Hydraulic Mould Board Plough, Mulchers, Shredders, etc., and tractor operated equipment like boom sprayers, raised bed planter, pneumatic planter, straw balers, etc. The tractor owned by the farmer can improvise his financial capacity by adding the latest tractor operated agricultural equipment and hire the tractor with equipment to the fellow farmers after attending his own field operations.

7. Taking all the above factors into consideration, Government of Andhra Pradesh for effective penetration of mechanization in agriculture and to reach the national average of farm power 2.00 Kw/ha from the present 1.87 Kw/ha is introducing the "RYTHU RADHAM SCHEME" for the year 2017-18. The Government intends to supply 6000 no's tractors with appropriate implements under State Development Plan with an out lay of Rs.125.00 crores under Farm Mechanisation Scheme.

8. The Government of Andhra Pradesh hereby constitute a Committee with the following eminent personalities for effective implementation of the Scheme and preparation of modalities and guidelines:

01.	Prof. (Dr) T.V. Satyanarayana, Registrar, ANGRAU	---	Chairman
02.	Prof. (Dr) C. Ramana Associate Dean, CAE, Madakasira	---	Member
03.	Er. P.P. Rao, Director, SRFMTTI. Garladinne, Anantapuramu	---	Member
04.	Sri D. Haribabu Chowdhary, Joint Director of Agriculture	---	Member
05.	Sri M. Chandra Rajamohan, General Manager, AP AGROS	---	Member
06.	Sri Vinai Chand, Additional Director of Agriculture	---	Member/Convenor

9. The Committee shall submit the modalities and guidelines for implementation of the Scheme within three days to the Special Commissioner of Agriculture, A.P., Guntur for onward transmission to Government for approval.

10. The Special Commissioner of Agriculture, A.P., Guntur shall take necessary action accordingly.

(BY ORDER AND IN THE NAME OF THE GOVERNOR OF ANDHRA PRADESH)

B. RAJSEKHAR
SPECIAL CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT (FAC)

To
The Members concerned.
The Special Commissioner of Agriculture, A.P., Guntur.
The Registrar, ANGRAU, Guntur.
The Vice Chairman & Managing Director, A.P.AGROS, Vijayawada.
SF/SC.

//FORWARDED BY ORDER//

SECTION OFFICER